

Community resources

[Follow us on Twitter](#) [Check our Reddit](#) [Twitter this](#) [Digg this page](#) [Contact us on IRC](#)

courage is contagious

Viewing cable 06BERN1593, CORRECTED COPY) SWISS FOREIGN MINISTER

\

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06BERN1593**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
06BERN1593	2006-08-29 17:54	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Bern

Appears in these articles:

www.letemps.ch/swiss_papers

VZCZCXRO0211
OO RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHSW #1593 2411754
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 291754Z AUG 06 ZDS
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2924
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2587
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0095

76571 2006-08-29 17:54:00 06BERN1593 Embassy Bern CONFIDENTIAL VZCZCXRO0211\
OO RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR\
DE RUEHSW #1593 2411754\
ZNY CCCCC ZZH\
O 291754Z AUG 06 ZDS\
FM AMEMBASSY BERN\
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2924\
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY\
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2587\
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0095 C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 001593 \
\
SIPDIS \
\
C O R R E C T E D C O P Y -- F O R M A T T I N G \
\
SIPDIS \

\

STATE FOR P, G, EUR, EUR/AGS/TRICK AND SAINT-ANDRE \

\

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/29/2016 \

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ETRD](#) [SZ](#)

SUBJECT: (CORRECTED COPY) SWISS FOREIGN MINISTER \

CALMY-REY EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF U.S.-SWISS \

RELATIONS, REGRETS "MISUNDERSTANDING" CONCERNING HER \

RECENT REMARKS TO THE SWISS AMBASSADORS' CONFERENCE \

\

Classified By: CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A. I. CAROL URBAN, REASONS 1.4 B/D \

\

1. (C) Charge Urban met with Swiss Foreign Minister Calmy-Rey \

this afternoon at the FM's invitation. The FM wished to \

clarify remarks she made about the U.S. during her August 21 \

speech to the Swiss ambassadors conference in Bern. Asked to \

speak first, the Charge noted concerns in Washington over the \

FM's singling out of the United States for criticism in a \

public forum (press had been invited to cover the speech) \

without any mention of the positive aspects of the U.S.-Swiss \

relationship. She emphasized that it was difficult to \

reconcile the FM's remarks with the several U.S.-Swiss \

cooperative efforts and successes of the past year. \

\

----- \

"Not Meant as a Criticism" \

----- \

\

2.(C) The 45 minute meeting, which included Swiss State \

Secretary (and Political Director) Ambuehl and POL/ECON \

\

SIPDIS \

Counselor, was extremely cordial, and Calmy-Rey took pains to \

express her concern over the "misunderstanding" that her \

remarks had created. She blamed this partially on the press, \

noting that her remarks about the United States had been \

taken out of context. She protested that her remarks were \

perhaps not "la formule la plus elegante" (not the most \

elegant formulation) but that they were simply "une \

constatation" (statement of fact) and not meant to be taken \

as a criticism or "singling out" of the United States. She \

was simply trying to lay out the parameters and limits of \

Swiss foreign policy "based on principles of international \

law" to her assembled ambassadors. Ambuehl added that \

Calmy-Rey had put great emphasis on the U.S.-Swiss \

relationship in previous speeches, and is planning another \

speech in the near future that will focus on the \

relationship, which he noted is based on common values. \

\

----- \

Importance of Political MOU \

----- \

\

3.(C) Calmy-Rey went on to state that Switzerland needs a \

"coherent foreign policy" with the United States, and \

repeated several times that she was proud of the recently \

signed MOU that provides for enhanced U.S.-Swiss political \

cooperation, and which she counted as one of her personal \

successes. She emphasized that the MOU framework must be \

"institutionalized as soon as possible" and that she was \

looking forward to an early meeting in Bern between A/S Fried \

and Ambuehl, hopefully at the end of September or in early \

October. She promised that important topics would be raised, \

and she hoped for positive press coverage to set the record \

straight. Ambuehl added that Calmy-Rey had already chaired \

two meetings to discuss possible topics for the discussions, \

and that they had developed a good list of substantive \

issues. He promised to share them with the Embassy soonest \

in order to speed preparation for the high-level meeting. \

\

14. (C) Comment: Calmy-Rey and Ambuehl obviously realized \

that her recent speech was unbalanced and were extremely \

polite and apologetic. They were eager to repair any damage \

done and were intent on establishing a positive tone for the \

upcoming talks under the political framework MOU. Embassy \

will follow up on their proposed "substantive agenda" and \

provide EUR with comments and suggestions. End comment. \

\\
\\
URBAN \